
California Index of Inclusion: 2002

Quick Facts

People

In the 2000 Census, the California population was as follows:

Major Ethnic Group	Percent of Population	Number
White	46.7	15,816,790
Latino	32.4	10,966,556
Asian	10.9	3,648,860
	6.7	

Health

- Job-based insurance increased for all four major ethnic/racial groups from 1994 to 1999 and Medi-Cal participation rates dropped.

Latinos were the largest ethnic/racial group of uninsured Californians in 2001 - there were approximately 2.5 million uninsured Latinos, representing over 28.3 percent of the Latino population. Thirteen percent of Asians, 9.5 percent of Blacks, and 8.6 percent of Whites were uninsured.

Death from diabetes is increasing. Black Californians die of diabetes at three times the rates of Whites and Asians. Latinos die from diabetes at double the rates of Whites and Asians.

Death from suicide is decreasing for Whites, but they still commit suicide at twice the rates of Asians and Latinos and at about a third higher rate than for Blacks.

Neighborhoods

- As a percent of regional population, Asians are concentrated in the Bay Area. Latinos have increased throughout the state, especially in the Southern Central Valley and in Southern California. More Blacks live in Bakersfield and San Bernadino. Whites have lost relative population share throughout the state, except in the northernmost counties and Sierras.
- The "digital divide" has a differentiated impact on California's ethnic/racial communities. Asians are the least effected as over 83 percent have used the Internet. Latinos are the most effected, as only 47 percent have used the Internet. Internet use among Whites and Blacks is 70 and 62 percent, respectively.
- Homicide death rates have dropped dramatically for Black Californians, from 52 per 100,000 in 1994 to 25.4 per 100,000 in 1998.
- Blacks and Latinos report lower levels of satisfaction about their experiences of either calling the police or being stopped by police, than Whites. All three ethnic groups reported about the same degree of satisfaction in their experiences with the courts.
- A strong preponderance of Californians, over 80 percent, report having either positive or neutral feelings about the impact of other racial or ethnic groups on their neighborhoods.

Schools

- 1,222,809 K-12 students spoke Spanish in California schools in 2000, compared to 285,567 in 1981. The next most frequently spoken language in California schools, Vietnamese, increased from 22,826 to 39,447 students during the same period.
- The percent of not fully credentialed teachers in classrooms rose sharply between 1990 and 2000 for all identified ethnic groups. The increase was steepest for Asians, Latinos, and Blacks in high-poverty schools.
- Twenty-two percent of Latino and 25 percent of Black high school graduates completed college prep courses in 2000, compared to 40 percent of White and 54 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander (PI) graduates.
- Over 70 percent of Asian/PI, Black, and Latino adult education enrollees either dropped out or stayed at the same level in 2000-2001. They were primarily enrolled in English as a Second Language, High School or General Education Degree (GED), and Vocational Education courses.

Work and Money

- Home ownership increased by 10 percent each for Latinos and Asians from 1991 to 2001. However, less than 50 percent of Blacks and Latinos owned their own homes in 2001 -- compared to between 65 and 70 percent for Asians and Whites.
- Thirty-three percent of Blacks and 26 percent of Latinos were denied conventional home-purchase loans in 2000 -- compared to 15 percent of Whites and 16 percent of Asians.

Family income increased for all Californians between 1991 and 2001. Asians and Whites experienced the largest increases, while Black and Latino family incomes increased moderately.

- Compared to other groups, fewer Latinos were in high-wage occupations and most were in low-wage occupations in 2001.

Community Involvement

- Half of all eligible Asian and Latino citizens were not registered to vote in 2001.
- In 2002, fewer than 700 of 4,200 school board members were Asian/PI (92), Latino (455), or Black (130).
- The number of Latino school board members and city officials increased from 1990 to 2000. The numbers of Black elected and appointed officials decreased during the same period among state, county, school board, and judges/law enforcement officials. Asian/PI officials increased proportionally, but their numbers remained very small.
- Over 80 percent of the State Bar, and over 80 percent of judges in California, were White when surveyed in both 1993 and 2001.
- Between 40 and 45 percent of Black and White Californians say they pay attention to public affairs, compared to approximately 25 percent of Asians and Latinos.